

What is claimed is:

1. An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

a photoconductive element provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

charging means for uniformly charging the surface of said photoconductive element;

exposing means for exposing the surface of said photoconductive element charged by said charging means to thereby form a latent image;

developing means for developing the latent image with toner by feeding said toner to said photoconductive element to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and collecting residual toner left on said photoconductive element after image transfer;

image transferring means for transferring the toner image from said photoconductive element to a subject body;

air sending means for sending air to a space around said photoconductive element; and

air conditioning means for dehumidifying air to be sent by said air sending means.

2. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein dehumidified air output from said air sending means is sent into an image forming module accommodating said photoconductive element, said charging means and said

developing means and removably mounted to a casing of said apparatus.

3. The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said air conditioning means is disposed in said image forming module.

4. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said charging means comprises a contact type charger.

5. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said air conditioning means controls air temperature while dehumidifying air.

6. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the toner stored in said developing means is produced by polymerization.

7. An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

a plurality of photoconductive elements each being provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

a plurality of charging means each for uniformly charging the surface of one of said plurality of photoconductive elements;

at least one exposing means for exposing the surface of each of said plurality of photoconductive elements charged by one of said charging means to thereby form a latent image;

a plurality of developing means each for developing a latent image formed on one of said plurality of photoconductive elements with toner of a particular color to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and collecting residual toner left on the one photoconductive element after image transfer;

a plurality of image transferring means each for transferring the toner image from one of said plurality of photoconductive elements to a subject body;

air sending means for sending air to spaces around said plurality of photoconductive elements; and

air conditioning means for dehumidifying air to be sent by said air sending means.

8. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein dehumidified air output from said air sending means is sent into a plurality of image forming modules each accommodating one of said plurality of photoconductive elements, one of said plurality of charging means and one of said plurality of developing means and removably mounted to a casing of said apparatus.

9. The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said air conditioning means is disposed in each of said plurality of image forming modules.

10. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said plurality of charging means each comprise a contact type

charger.

11. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said air conditioning means controls air temperature while dehumidifying air.

12. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the toner stored in each of said plurality of developing means is produced by polymerization.

13. An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

one photoconductive element provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

one charging means for uniformly charging the surface of said photoconductive element;

one exposing means for exposing the surface of said photoconductive element charged by said charging means to thereby form a latent image;

a plurality of developing means arranged around said photoconductive element and each storing toner of a particular color for developing the latent image with said toner to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and collecting residual toner left on said photoconductive element after image transfer;

one image transferring means for sequentially transferring toner images sequentially formed on said photoconductive element to a subject body one above the

other;

air sending means for sending air to a space around said photoconductive element; and

air conditioning means for dehumidifying air to be sent by said air sending means.

14. The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein dehumidified air output from said air sending means is sent into an image forming module accommodating said photoconductive element, said charging means and said plurality of developing means and removably mounted to a casing of said apparatus.

15. The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein said air conditioning means is disposed in said image forming module.

16. The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein said charging means comprises a contact type charger.

17. The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein said air conditioning means controls air temperature while dehumidifying air.

18. The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the toner stored in each of said plurality of developing means is produced by polymerization.

19. An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

a photoconductive element provided with a

photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

a charger configured to uniformly charge the surface of said photoconductive element;

an exposing unit configured to expose the surface of said photoconductive element charged by said charger to thereby form a latent image;

a developing device configured to develop the latent image with toner by feeding said toner to said photoconductive element to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and collect residual toner left on said photoconductive element after image transfer;

an image transferring device configured to transfer the toner image from said photoconductive element to a subject body;

an air sending device for sending air to a space around said photoconductive element; and

an air conditioning device for dehumidifying air to be sent by said air sending means.

20. An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

a plurality of photoconductive elements each being provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

a plurality of chargers each being configured to uniformly charge the surface of one of said plurality of

photoconductive elements;

at least one exposing unit configured to expose the surface of each of said plurality of photoconductive elements charged by one of said plurality of chargers to thereby form a latent image;

a plurality of developing devices each being configured to develop a latent image formed on one of said plurality of photoconductive elements with toner of a particular color to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and collect residual toner left on the one photoconductive element after image transfer;

a plurality of image transferring devices each being configured to transfer the toner image from one of said plurality of photoconductive elements to a subject body;

an air sending device configured to send air to spaces around said plurality of photoconductive elements; and

an air conditioning device configured to dehumidify air to be sent by said air sending device.

21. An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising:

a photoconductive element provided with a photoconductive layer on a surface thereof;

a charger configured to uniformly charge the surface of said photoconductive element;

an exposing unit configured to expose the surface of said photoconductive element charged by said charger to thereby form a latent image;

a plurality of developing devices arranged around said photoconductive element and each being configured to store toner of a particular color for developing the latent image with said toner to thereby produce a corresponding toner image and collect residual toner left on said photoconductive element after image transfer;

an image transferring device configured to sequentially transfer toner images sequentially formed on said photoconductive element to a subject body one above the other;

an air sending device configured to send air to a space around said photoconductive element; and

an air conditioning device configured to dehumidify air to be sent by said air sending means.